

THE
OCTAGON

A Journal of The American Institute of Architects



A Message From The President
The Washington Scene
The Edward Langley Scholarships
The Handbook of Architectural Practice
Charges of Unprofessional Conduct—Exoneration
The Architect in Civilian Protection
The Planning Committee of the Washington, D. C., Chapter
The Department of Technical Services

Volume 15

JANUARY

1943

Number 1

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

(Terms expire 1943)

R. H. SHREVE, President
11 East 44th Street, New York, N. Y.

WALTER R. MACCORNACK, Vice-President
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

CHARLES T. INGHAM, Secretary
1211 Empire Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.

RAYMOND J. ASHTON, Treasurer
312 Beneficial Life Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

(Terms expire 1943)

PETER BRUST, 135 W. Wells Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin Illinois-Wisconsin District
H. DALAND CHANDLER, 126 Newbury Street, Boston, Massachusetts New England District
GEORGE BAIN CUMMINGS, 99 Collier Street, Binghamton, New York New York District

(Terms expire 1944)

G. CORNER FENHAGEN, 325 No. Charles St., Baltimore, Maryland Middle Atlantic District
C. JULIAN OBERWARTH, 301 Second Street, Frankfort, Kentucky Great Lakes District
HARLAN THOMAS Western Mountain District
(Oct. 1 to June 14) School of Architecture, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington
(June 15 to Oct. 1) C/o Stiliquamish Country Club, Arlington, Washington

(Terms expire 1945)

KENNETH E. WISCHMEYER, 911 Locust St., St. Louis, Missouri Central States District
HENRY H. GUTTERSON, 2922 Garber St., Berkeley, California Sierra-Nevada District
JOHN F. STAUB, 3911 Del Monte Drive, Houston, Texas Gulf States District
ALBERT SIMONS, 17 State St., Charleston, South Carolina South Atlantic District

STATE ASSOCIATION DIRECTOR

(Term expires 1944)

MATTHEW W. DEL GAUDIO, 545 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD

(1942-1943)

R. H. SHREVE, *Chairman*

CHARLES T. INGHAM, *Secretary*

RAYMOND J. ASHTON

MATTHEW W. DEL GAUDIO

KENNETH E. WISCHMEYER

C. JULIAN OBERWARTH, *Alternate*

HEADQUARTERS

1741 New York Avenue N. W., Washington, D. C.

EDWARD C. KEMPER, *Executive Secretary*

THEODORE IRVING COE, *Technical Secretary*

HENRY F. WITHEY, *Biographer*, 15031 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks, California

THE OCTAGON, A Journal of The American Institute of Architects. Published Monthly by The American Institute of Architects. Executive and Publication Offices, The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. Twenty-five Cents the Copy. \$1 per year. (Foreign \$2.) Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to The American Institute of Architects. All communications should be sent to The Secretary. Entered as second-class matter, February 9, 1929, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C.

THE OCTAGON

A Journal of The American Institute of Architects

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Executive and Publication Offices, The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.
Official Office in the State of New York, 115 E. 40th Street, New York, N. Y.

A Message From The President

ON AN earlier occasion, fortunately not too far in retrospect, the adored Charles Maginnis at the turn of the year addressed the members of The Institute through the pages of THE OCTAGON in praise of all and several who through his incumbency had ministered to the needs of The Institute, and particularly to the trammels of office of said Charles Maginnis, the genial spirit who so graciously presided over the affairs of the Society. Debating what he might say, with a modesty which now masks and again lurks behind the compelling charm of his spoken thought he admitted the "temptation to prophecy" which he resisted "in the persuasion" that he had not "the gift of it."

The winter passed, "Came the Spring!" And with it, and thereafter during the year, came frequent opportunity to meet the corporate membership throughout the nation! Smoggy Pittsburgh, somnolent Philadelphia, gracious Baltimore, sunny Florida, inspired Chicago, vivescent California, all, poured back into his unflinching cruse of eloquence the plaudits which are his in answer to that smile before ever a word has been released from his precious store.

As with us mortals, so with Charles D. Maginnis! No longer diffidence crept across the boards, but when the turn of the wheel brought once more the occasion for the "New Year Salutation of The President," to the rapt audience came the dictum "this is the appointed moment for prophecy, and since it is, why should I be the only one to acknowledge that I have no gift of it?" (cf. OCTAGON, p. 3, January, 1939.)

Your President of today, on a similar occasion, musing timorously in the shadow of a great artist, but lacking the confidence born of inspiration (even of the pre-fabricated variety) confesses awareness that over the many years of The Institute's history it has become the custom of our members, with the opening of the New Year, to take stock of our blessings and our losses, and to set our thoughts to the accomplishment of those things which to each of us seem most worth the effort we are prepared to put into our membership in The Institute. Prophecy is not likely to be of value just now.

The year 1943 finds us stronger in many ways. More of the architects of the United States are today associated under the standard of The Institute than ever before in our history. Not all of us are able to do what we would choose but on the whole we have brought to bear our qualities and our strength in a way greatly to contribute to aiding the nation's leaders in the advances made within and beyond our borders.

Notwithstanding much shifting and adjustment the architects and our brothers in the field of engineering have been helpfully and gainfully at work. We have learned much from one another and should find the experience in double harness useful when we face together the tasks which are now visible, to teach, to rebuild, to share, to lift,—for which we must have gained some preparation today and every day. It is The President's firm conviction that our individual opportunities will not have changed greatly, that ability and initiative will still have the right of way, that our participation will be what

we make it and that we shall not advance ourselves by depending altogether on others. Look about you as the story of the world and your home community unfolds and count yourself as one who can have a part in the leadership if you are equal to the task.

Through the direction of an active Board The Institute is preparing to maintain representation and active participation in the work of Washington and the State governments. We shall have rebuilt, with your help, a financial strength equal to the demands ahead of us. Our membership is larger, broader, more representative than ever before, and more aware of the need for us to maintain ourselves in the good esteem of our fellow citizens.

The Annual Meeting of The Institute this year will be held in Cincinnati, not alone because of the cordial invitation extended us and the welcome of

which we are sure,—but, as well, because there we shall be free from the turmoil which accompanies any sojourn today in the less-favored whirlpools of industry, commerce and finance. Study of our profession's obligations and opportunities will be the first thought. Concentration of delegate representation will be in order, to limit travel and to share the cost. But it will be an important assembly, without need to beat the drums. Already the whisperings about candidates are heard in the land, and the perennial healthful determination to improve whatever has been done is evidence of an active, purposeful interest.

Let us hold fast what we have gained.

So shall we be assured of a fuller part in The New Year.

R. H. SHREVE, *President*

The Washington Scene

THERE has been little in the way of important development in Washington over the Christmas and New Year period that has not already been commented on generally, either in the November OCTAGON or in Bulletin No. 18 which was sent to all who receive THE OCTAGON a few days ago.

War Production Board

The following items may deserve calling attention to:

The Directive No. 9 covering conservation of reinforcing steel for buildings was issued on October 5 (as mentioned in the November OCTAGON) and originally had a deadline of December 4. This was extended, because of delay in printing the specifications, until January 1. It should be noted that this order is now in effect.

A newly developed grade of Douglas fir plywood known as "Hutment," has been designed for substitute use on the exterior of temporary military housing only, under the provisions of Limitation Order L-150-b, issued December 22, 1942.

The War Production Board announced on January 4 that considerable saving in both time and money on the part of applicants for substantial construction projects can often be effected by using the preliminary service of the Materials Control Branch of the Construction Bureau of W.P.B. Architects

who have preliminary drawings and approximate lists of materials available may consult W.P.B. before making final drawings and before submitting formal application for beginning construction. For projects sponsored by Federal, State, County, Municipal, and other Government agencies, inquiries should be directed to Maury Maverick, Director, Governmental Division, War Production Board, Temporary "E" Building, Washington, D. C. For all other projects, inquiries should be directed to the Materials Control Branch, Construction Bureau, 54th Floor, Empire State Building, New York, or the Architectural and Codes Section, Specifications Branch, Conservation Division, 8th Floor, Washington Gas Light Company Building, 11th and H Sts., N. W., Washington, D. C.

W.P.B. announced on January 11, 1943 that a blanket preference rating of AA-3 is assigned for most of the war housing projects programmed by the National Housing Agency. Those interested should look into the details of this announcement, which includes up-rating of existing projects.

Do not overlook Limitation Order L-228, issued December 29, 1942, covering restrictions applied to asphalt or tarred roofing products and asphalt shingles, but not applying to some products of these kinds, for industrial use, when used for pipe coverings or combination flashings.

Personal Employment—A

The Civil Service Commission has modified rules for technicians. Qualified applicants in engineering, drafting, and radio are needed so badly that the entrance requirements have been considerably modified. Salaries range from \$1,440 to \$8,000. Information is available from the Civil Service Commission at 801 E St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Discussion with officials of the Civil Service Commission of the architect's status in C.S.C. activities discloses the following:—They agree with us that architects can be placed in many Federal positions *not directly architectural* to which many architects' broad technical and administrative experience makes them easily adaptable. There is a definite scarcity of "specialists" or "technicians" already specifically trained for the positions in view. C.S.C. has a large registration of architects *as architects* but their data is not in such form as to emphasize the experience or the non-architectural abilities required for the positions in view. C.S.C. suggests that all architects interested in non-architectural administrative type positions, whether now registered with C.S.C. or not, file C.S.C. Standard Form No. 57, Revised July 1942, and fill in (if desired; not mandatory) "*name of position applied for*" (1st page, upper right) one or more of the following:—

Control Specialist (see Form No. 279)	} mark "for Engineering Unit"
Naval Architect (see Form No. 246)	

Administrative Officer (see Recruiting Circular No. 17)	} mark "for Administrative Unit"
Administrative Analyst (see Recruiting Circular No. 14)	

The other information to be given on the form should emphasize technical training and experience, and administrative experience, including such experience outside of architectural practice, such as office or directorship in corporations, charities, etc. Note particularly Items 44 and 45. Salaries will range from \$2,000 per year to not over \$6,500, except in special instances.

Some magazines contain an advertisement from a

leading aircraft company in Maryland asking for engineers, architects, draftsmen, designers and other technicians, needed at once. The minimum requirements are high school education (college preferred), age range 28 to 50, five years of actual engineering or drafting experience, American citizens only; those now employed at their highest skills in war work will not be considered. Inquiries may be addressed to the Architectural Forum, Box No. F92 and should include full details of experience, education and other background together with a small non-returnable photograph.

Personal Employment—B

This office is occasionally asked by officials to suggest an individual for an *administrative* type of position, *not directly connected with architecture*, but for which the architect's training and experience is a good background.

We do not feel that it is proper for The Institute to recommend an individual, but we do believe that the position of the profession is enhanced by our being as helpful as possible to the Government when our assistance is requested. We have, on several occasions, submitted panels of eight or ten names of persons whose records seemed to be in line with the required qualifications.

We have a large file of letters from architects and draftsmen on the general subject of employment, but it covers more than a year and much of it is therefore out of date.

Without desiring or intending to become an employment office, it is suggested that those who would be interested in positions of the type indicated (for instance, in the multifarious branches of W.P.B. and N.H.A.), send in afresh a *short concise* outline of personal record, with emphasis on *administrative* and *field* experience and *technical* knowledge, including age, family, and draft status, and limit of acceptable salary (be reasonable—these are Civil Service jobs). In fact, it would be helpful if this data be sent us on the same C.S.C. Form No. 57 mentioned herein. This will permit us to submit panels of architects who can be communicated with by the interested agency.

Post-War Planning

The post-war pot is beginning to boil. Congress is hardly organized yet, but several bills have been

introduced and the temper of this Congress is to look forward to the post-war period. The Departments and Agencies are all beginning to stir on the same subject and private organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, The Producers' Council and others are giving much thought to it. We anticipate that there may be interesting information along this line within the next month or two.

Local chapters, state associations, and individual architects are urged to direct as much attention as possible, locally, to the subject of post-war planning, in order that local Governments and institutions may begin to think along these lines, looking forward to the preparation of preliminary drawings and specifications in order that, whenever a break in the war may come, it will be possible to move quickly in the preparation of working drawings and specifications and letting of contracts for projects, without the twelve to fourteen months' delay which was

experienced after the first World War and during the "depression."

Addresses

Although The Annual, issued as the October number of THE OCTAGON, contained the latest addresses available to The Institute office, so many addresses are being changed so frequently that it is extremely difficult to keep up with them, and the office of the Washington Representative, particularly, finds itself somewhat crippled by lack of addresses, especially of those in the Armed Services. THOSE IN THE ARMED SERVICES OR THEIR FAMILIES OR OFFICES are requested to keep this office as up-to-date as possible on such addresses; a postcard sent in from time to time will be a convenient and satisfactory method.

D. K. ESTE FISHER, JR.
Washington Representative

The Edward Langley Scholarships for 1943

THE American Institute of Architects will receive proposals of candidates for Edward Langley Scholarships from January 1 to March 31, 1943. Awards will be announced in May or June.

These scholarships are awarded annually for advanced work in architecture through study, travel, or research, as the candidate elects.

They are open to all residents of the United States and Canada who are engaged in the profession of architecture; that is, architects, architectural draftsmen (including specification writers, supervisors, and executives), and teachers and students in architecture.

Awards are made and grants determined by The Committee on Awards and Scholarships, under authority of The Board of Directors.

A very limited number of awards can be made each year, so, to avoid unnecessary disappointments, a candidate should not be proposed unless his qualifications and program are outstanding.

Awards will be made upon a competitive basis from the standpoint of the character, ability, and need of each candidate; the purpose of the grant; potential contribution to professional knowledge or welfare; and amount of grant required.

Programs must be carefully planned and the candidate should attach a written summary to his proposal giving a clear picture of how his work or study will be developed and reported, a schedule of time requirements, and a statement in reasonable detail of the expenditures to be made from the requested grant.

A proposed candidate may be asked to submit examples of his work or to appear before a representative of the committee.

How to Propose a Candidate

Any architect in the United States or Canada may propose any other architect or architectural draftsman residing in the same country.

The faculty or head of any architectural school in the United States or Canada whose standing is satisfactory to the committee may propose any teacher or student in such school.

Form of Proposal. Every proposal shall be made in duplicate on A.I.A. Form S70, which may be obtained from The American Institute of Architects, 1741 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C.

Filing Proposals. All information and data re-

quired on the proposal form shall be filled in, and both the original and duplicate proposal shall be sent to The Secretary, The American Institute of Architects, at the address given herein, so as to reach there not later than March 31, 1943. Proposals received after that date cannot be considered.

Special Note

Programs presented by the candidates should be capable of fulfillment under the increasingly difficult war conditions. The committee suggests an interest in those having a valuable relation to the war effort or to developments resulting therefrom.

Handbook of Architectural Practice—Revised Edition

THE revised edition of the Handbook of Architectural Practice is now ready for distribution.

The Board of Directors at its recent meeting reviewed and approved the proof of this new book—a comprehensive exposition of modern architectural practice, apart from design.

The Board expressed its keen appreciation of the splendid work of William Stanley Parker and his confreres in preparing the revised edition and directed that acknowledgment be made in the frontispiece, to read as follows:

The American Institute of Architects makes grateful acknowledgment to William Stanley Parker of Boston, Past Secretary of The Institute, under whose able direction this revised edition of the Handbook was prepared.

The Board endorses the Handbook and commends it to your attention.

Now is a good time to bring your office practice up-to-date—to so organize its forms and procedures, and the business side of your practice that you will be prepared to render efficient and rapid service in

turning out the work which is sure to come with the post-war building era.

The Handbook has 204 pages of text, size 8½ x 11, durable blue linen cloth cover, with title in gold letters.

The price is \$5.00 per copy except to architectural students who may purchase copies for \$4.00, provided that orders from students are countersigned by the Deans of their Departments of Architecture.

The Handbook is just off the press and is not yet in stock by dealers but may be obtained from The Octagon.

Orders should be addressed to The Secretary, The American Institute of Architects, The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Remittances should accompany orders, or the book will be sent collect. No charge is made for postage or wrapping. Every order is filled on the day received.

The scope of the Handbook is shown by the table of contents, which follows:

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
<i>Part I. Registration of Architects</i>		Chapter 6. Agreement Between Owner and Architect	18
Chapter 1. Registration.....	13	Chapter 7. Employment of Engineers and Other Consulting Specialists..	19
Chapter 2. National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.....	14	Chapter 8. The Architect's Status.....	19
<i>Part II. The Architect and the Owner</i>		Chapter 9. The Owner's Duties.....	20
Chapter 3. Various Forms of Architectural Service	15	<i>Part III. The Office</i>	
Chapter 4. The Selection of an Architect	16	Chapter 10. Office Organization	22
Chapter 5. Methods of Paying the Architect	17	Chapter 11. The Outer Office.....	23
		Chapter 12. The Drafting Room.....	27

	PAGE		PAGE
Chapter 13. The Business Office and Its System	31	<i>Part VI. The Execution of the Work</i>	
Chapter 14. Accounts of Owner and His Contractors	32	Chapter 36. On Notifying the Owner and the Contractor of Certain Duties	63
Chapter 15. Cost Accounting.....	32	Chapter 37. Filing of Plans.....	64
Chapter 16. An Architect's Bookkeeping..	35	Chapter 38. Schedule of Detail Drawings and Schedule of Progress of the Work.....	64
<i>Part IV. Surveys, Preliminary Studies and Estimates, Working Drawings and Specifications</i>		Chapter 39. Shop Drawings and Schedules	65
Chapter 17. The Survey, and Information to be Furnished by the Owner	39	Chapter 40. Schedule of Values.....	67
Chapter 18. The Survey of an Existing Building	40	Chapter 41. Supervision and Superintendence: Clerk of the Works.....	67
Chapter 19. Preliminary Studies and Models	41	Chapter 42. Changes in the Amount of the Contract	72
Chapter 20. Preliminary Estimates	41	Chapter 43. Applications for Payment.....	75
Chapter 21. The Delivery and Acceptance of Preliminary Studies. The Ordering, Delivery, and Acceptance of Working Drawings and Specifications.....	42	Chapter 44. Certificates of Payment.....	75
Chapter 22. Working Drawings	43	<i>Part VII. The Architect and the Law</i>	
Chapter 23. Specifications	44	Chapter 45. General Aspects of Architectural Law.....	79
<i>Part V. The Letting of Contracts</i>		Chapter 46. Building Codes and Other Building Laws	79
Chapter 24. Competitive Bidding	46	Chapter 47. Various Laws Affecting Employees	79
Chapter 25. Methods of Contracting for the Execution of the Work....	47	Chapter 48. The Architect's Liability.....	80
Chapter 26. Letting the Work Under One, Several, or Many Contracts....	48	Chapter 49. Mechanics' Lien Laws.....	82
Chapter 27. Laws Relating to Work Paid for from Public Funds.....	50	Chapter 50. Architects' Partnership Agreements	83
Chapter 28. The Quantity System.....	50	<i>Part VIII. Office Records of Completed Work</i>	
Chapter 29. Invitation to Submit a Proposal	51	Chapter 51. Basic Data and Forms of Record.....	86
Chapter 30. Instructions to Bidders.....	51	<i>Part IX. The American Institute of Architects and Its Documents</i>	
Chapter 31. Form of Proposal.....	52	Chapter 52. Documents relating to Professional Practice and Business Administration.....	91
Chapter 32. Legal Details of Agreements..	53		
Chapter 33. The Standard Contract Documents of The A.I.A.....	55		
Chapter 34. The Short Form of Contract..	61		
Chapter 35. Bonds of Suretyship.....	61		

Charges of Unprofessional Conduct—Exoneration

AT the recent meeting of The Board of Directors of The Institute held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the report of The Judiciary Committee was considered—relative to charges of unprofessional conduct brought against Andrew Fraser, A.I.A., assigned to the South Texas Chapter, for alleged participation in a competitive fee bidding program advanced by the Board of Control of the State of Texas for securing architectural services at a reduced fee.

The Judiciary Committee found that the accused member did *not* bid on the work on a reduced fee basis; and that he had submitted a proper fee, with a statement of competence and experience.

Therefore, The Judiciary Committee found the accused member not guilty of the charges of unprofessional conduct as stated in the charge.

The Board concurred in these findings, exonerated

Andrew Fraser of the charges of unprofessional conduct, and has so advised the parties in interest.

During its deliberations in this case the members of The Board were unanimously of the opinion that the method used by the Board of Control of the State of Texas in this case for the selection of an architect was inimical to sound professional relationships among architects, contrary to the best interests of the profession, and should be vigorously protested whenever it is proposed. This opinion was in full support of the position of the four Texas Chapters of The Institute and of The Texas Society of Architects.

In accord with a provision of the rules of The Board this notice of exoneration has been published at the request of Mr. Fraser.

CHARLES T. INGHAM, *Secretary*

The Architect in Civilian Protection

NEARLY three years have elapsed since members of The American Institute of Architects began to inform themselves on the effects of bombing abroad and on what was being done to protect the civilian population. New England architects were first in the field, with New York and Washington groups following closely, the latter having met almost fortnightly for a period of over two years. For expressing his views on the need of such preparation in an article in the July, 1941, *OCTAGON*, entitled "It Can't Happen Here—but Suppose It Does," the then chairman of the Washington committee, Horace W. Peaslee, was promptly put on the spot as chairman of the national committee of the architects. In this capacity, he organized groups in Institute chapters and state associations and in their subdivisions, to whom he furnished abstracts of applicable foreign material and publications as issued by the Office of Civilian Defense.

Other professions were likewise at work, preparing themselves to be of service by studying the latest techniques of attack and defense so that they could deal intelligently with the subject. The need of coordinated efforts became so obvious to everyone

concerned that in June, 1942, representatives of several technical groups met with General Grant, the newly appointed Assistant Director of O.C.D. and head of its technical operations, to discuss ways and means.

Following this joint session, there appeared to be a complete let down in activity, perhaps due to a feeling that nothing would be done about the proposal of the technical men. Communications ceased; committee activities lagged; and even the chairman appeared to have disappeared. Then came rumors, followed by letters from General Grant (whom we salute as a long-time Honorary Member) advising that a new technical arm had been authorized in the development of which the cooperation of the technical professions was invited. With this announcement came copies of two official communications, "Operations Letters 66 and 94," signed by Director Landis and addressed to the O.C.D. Regional Directors, reporting the establishment of a head Technical Board in Washington and calling upon regional, state, and major municipal defense councils to establish an Auxiliary Technical Service, each to include the following branches:

1. A technical organization of various capacities

under an executive steering nucleus—a *Technical Advisory Committee* of the ablest men, locally available, in their respective fields.

2. A *Technical Assistant*, an "outstanding professional engineer or architect" whose part is to assimilate and disseminate technical information on protection as needed by local men for local problems.
3. *Technical Intelligence Units*, wherever there are potential targets inviting attack, to make exact surveys of bomb damage to structure, sanitary facilities and personnel and for comparative analysis by a central agency to detect any "surprise" methods requiring counter measures, each to include five pre-qualified technical specialists—

"a chief, preferably an architect or engineer;" two assistants, with practical experience in building construction; a competent medical observer; and a qualified sanitary engineer.

Here is a program offering far greater opportunities for service than the professions had any expectations of achieving. It is particularly important in that it calls attention to the important part the building industry group may play, both now and later on. The organization projected, properly developed, will prepare the allied professions for teamwork in an emergency (which we all hope will not materialize) and for an organized effort to continue in the post-war world the study of civilian defense which so many of us feel should not be stopped upon the cessation of hostilities.

All of this indicates that the situation of a year ago is completely reversed. The service which the professions were seeking to render is now being sought from them by officials who know and appreciate the type of service which the technical professions alone are equipped to render, and here we might add that the long-lost chairman of the architects' committee, who worked to accomplish these ends for all the professions concerned, reappears in O.C.D. as secretary of its new Technical Board with a special assignment to promote working relationships with these professions in the establishment of the nationwide Technical Auxiliary.

The official organization is proceeding from the

top downward—from regions to states. It is hoped that the professions will meet it fully half way—working from the bottom up, joining forces as for any other large interprofessional undertaking, making joint contacts with their defense councils, urging prompt action in bringing the authorized organization into being, and seeing to it that only technically qualified and willing-to-work men are appointed.

Within The Institute, the first step is to check up on the committee and contact organization replacing those men who have gone into service and those who haven't had the time or interest to function properly as regional sub-chairmen or as organizing contacts for local study groups. As some official communications containing material of value to these study groups have been returned undelivered and as other addressees have never been heard from, a complete check-up of the committee organization is essential. It will speed up action if chapter presidents, secretaries, or "live" contacts will advise the new chairman immediately by airmail or wire as to the readiness of their group for participation so that he may arrange for mailings of latest technical data and copies of the Operations Letters mentioned. It is particularly important that names and addresses of new contact men be furnished.

For over a year, we fought for recognition and a chance to help; now we have an invitation and an opportunity to organize a really effective technical machine. Your new chairman pledges that he will give you all that you will take.

SLOCUM KINGSBURY, *Chairman*,

Committee on Civilian Protection of The A. I. A.
917 Fifteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Note: Horace W. Peaslee, organizing chairman of The Institute's Committee on Civilian Protection, has been appointed Secretary of the Technical Board of the Office of Civilian Defense, Washington, and has resigned his committee post. He has a special assignment in promoting the participation of technical men in general in the activities of defense councils throughout the country.

As his successor, President Shreve has appointed Slocum Kingsbury, former chairman of the Washington, D. C. Chapter Committee on Civilian Protection.

Organization of the Planning Committee of the Washington, D. C. Chapter

THE tide of concern about a Victory-world is rising fast. Architects are conscious of it and growing waves of interest are spreading among the chapters of The Institute over the entire country. It might be expected to have particular significance in Washington, at present an important center for post-war speculation as well as for population. The population includes an imposing array of professionals in a wide range of building fields. The local chapter believes that a program can be developed locally through its members, affiliates, and the related professions which can be of constructive help to the work of the national Committee on Post-War Reconstruction and to long-range planning generally.

With the appointment of a Planning Committee by President Faulkner, existing thought by various individuals in the chapter began to crystallize rapidly. Several members, threatened with excess leisure, decided to use the time to advantage. Others already busily engaged in activities related to the war decided to add to present heavy schedules in the interest of the coming peace. The work has been allocated to a central committee and seven sub-groups. To date these groups have enlisted about fifty workers who are architects, draftsmen, landscape architects, city planners, and a sprinkling from real estate, law, finance, and civic administration. Public as well as private practice is represented.

The Executive Committee of the chapter considers the work of the Planning Committee so significant that it will be the basis of chapter activity for the coming year. Normal committee work will be adapted to the planning program. Regular chapter meetings will have a planning theme; speakers and forums will be on diverse aspects of planning for the Victory era.

During the two-month period from the beginning of December to the first of February the groups are engaged in organizing personnel, defining objectives, and setting up a definite program of work. It is the intent, as indicated in the temporary program outlined herein, to start operations on a broader basis than pure professional interest. There is a decided feeling that the architect and others in the

building field must recognize dependence on the larger forces and necessity of preparation for intelligent participation in the large economic, political, social, and cultural changes evidently to come. The position and possibilities of service of the architect must be re-evaluated.

After the broad framework is established the work of the Planning Committee may be limited to phases in which it can make most detailed and effective contributions. To be fully effective its efforts must be tied to those of other bodies. It is probable that the chapters of The Institute will devote increasing energy to post-war activities. And it is hoped that the experience of one chapter may help the others and enlarge the achievement of the national body. Outside of The Institute there is already evidence of official and unofficial cooperation with members of local units of the engineering societies, governmental agencies, The Producers' Council, and the Building Congress. In a number of instances there are interlocking memberships in the planning committees.

Preliminary Program and Organization of Planning Committee

A. Central Committee on Program and Policy (Composed of chairmen of the groups.)

—Albert C. Schweitzer, chairman

1. Formulation of policies for a post-war planning program.
2. Coordination of work of the sub-committees (i. e. groups).
3. Relationships to other chapter activities.
4. Contacts with other chapters and outside groups engaged in similar activities, and with national A.I.A. committees.
5. Clearing house for planning information.

B. Group on Social, Economic, and Public Matters —Louis Justement, chairman

1. Study of social forces and social structure for which the architect must perform his services.
2. Analysis of economic changes.
3. Study of relationships of government to building.
4. Living standards.
5. International relationships.

C. Group on Urban Planning—Albert C. Schweitzer, chairman

1. Study of relationships of social, economic, and legal problems to physical planning.
2. Relationship of industry, transportation, utilities, etc. to building.
3. Determination of architects' place in city planning procedure.
4. Training for urban planning.
5. Specific consideration of Washington, D. C. problems.

D. Group on Technology—Howard Vermilya, chairman

1. Survey and study of new materials developed during war (plastics, fibers, light metals, etc.) and possible effects on building.
2. Study of new techniques of planning and building, i. e. prefabrication, demountable and mobile structures, and effects on profession.
3. Analysis of new types of equipment; heating, conditioning, packaged units such as kitchens, bathrooms, closets.
4. Study of technological aspects of building laws.
5. Research on performance standards.

E. Group on Housing—Eugene Henry Klaber, chairman

1. Analysis of housing needs.
2. Subdivisions and sites; relation to urban planning.
3. Slum clearance, rehabilitation.
4. Housing standards and research.
5. Design and construction.
6. Financing and legislation.

F. Group on Public Works—George Howe, chairman

1. Study of public works and public works reserves.
2. Promotion of understanding of and thought on public works programming operations by the profession.
3. Public works in the demobilization period.

G. Group on Professional Practice and Education—Thomas Locraft, chairman

1. Study of new possibilities and responsibilities of architectural practice.
2. New standards of competence and ethics.
3. Probable effects of post-war on A.I.A. and other professional groups.
4. Planning for replacement of draftsmen and architects from war duties to peace occupation.
5. Scheme for retraining men to meet new opportunities.
6. Plan for supplementing architectural education (i. e. by studies in sociology, economics, municipal administration for architects going into urban planning).
7. Reorganization of architectural curricula.
8. Professional relationships: Builders, engineers, and other technical professions; labor; manufacturers, clients (including governments); architectural organizations.

H. Group on Public Relations—Julian E. Berla, chairman

1. Promotion of architect participation in social and public affairs.
2. Making available and useful findings of chapter planning groups.
3. Stimulation of public interest in planning.
4. Informing public on possible services of architects to the community.

The Department of Technical Services—Notes

BY THEODORE IRVING COE, TECHNICAL SECRETARY

Building Materials—Then and Now

Comparison of the early issues of *The Producers' Council's Bulletin* with the recently issued *Bulletin No. 44* serves to emphasize the accomplishments and developments in the field of building materials, appliances, and equipment during the twenty-one years of the affiliation between *The Institute* and *The Council*.

The improvement in the presentation of descriptive and technical information concerning products of interest to the architect has been marked and, we believe, reflects one of the named purposes of the affiliation, viz.: "The issuance of more trustworthy information regarding materials and their use."

The review, by *The Department of Technical*

Services of The Institute, of the descriptive and technical information in The Council's Bulletin has proved helpful in making these presentations of greater practical value to the architect.

The impact of the restrictive regulations governing the availability and use of certain materials, essential both to construction and the instruments of war, has presented many problems to the producers of building materials, appliances, and equipment which have called for the intensification of research and the exercise of inventive ingenuity.

The presentations in Bulletin No. 44 reveal both the effects of war restrictions, and developments and advances which give promise of unlimited possibilities for the future, when war-time regulations no longer apply and the results of current research and inventive genius can be fully realized.

Glass Products: In the field of glass production flat glass has taken on added decorative and utilitarian properties and is no longer confined to simple window and store front glazing.

Illumination, and insulation against sound, heat, and cold, may be controlled by layers of glass between which is sealed a layer of spun glass, while two or more layers of factory sealed glass provide insulating air spaces which avoid fogging and maintain clear vision in temperature extremes.

Glass in the form of blocks, and flat glass in many colors and having a crushing strength of over thirty-one thousand pounds per square inch, are finding many uses for interior and exterior installation.

Tempered plate glass is highly resistant to heat and is available in over a score of translucent and opaque colors, as well as clear; while heat absorbing glass admits the light but does not admit a considerable percentage of the sun's heat, thus increasing comfort and lowering the cooling cost where air conditioning is installed.

Glazing: Improved glazing materials and methods of application provide weather tight glazing for wood sash, and efficient sash balances eliminate bulky weight boxes and moving weights which add to cost and increase the danger of air infiltration.

Cement Flooring: White cement flooring, for industrial use, provides an effective over-all reflecting surface which greatly increases the general illumination and promotes cleanliness and safety.

Insulation: The requirements for fuel conservation emphasize the value of full wall and ceiling

insulation, weatherstripping, calking joints around window and door openings, and storm sash.

Heating: Developments in single pipe, mechanically circulated hot water heating, provide economies in material, installation, and fuel, while simple automatic control prevents over-heating and adjusts heat output in direct proportion to need.

The control of heat distribution in buildings and plants may be arranged by floors or zoned areas.

Plumbing: Improved design and construction provide new compactness, greater strength, faster heat absorption, and higher efficiency in gas water heaters and boilers for structures from the smallest home to the largest building, cantonment, or industrial plant.

Plumbing fixture trimmings which conserve critical materials still provide essential working parts of non-ferrous metals necessary for efficient operation.

Privacy without using doors, hardware, or critical metals, is provided for commercial and industrial installations by a novel planning arrangement of standardized toilet units of marble.

Welding: The construction of metal sinks and cabinet tops, as separate units and in combined form, has been strengthened by the use of welding technics.

Structural Steel: Structural members of light weight strip steel provide economies in weight, in shipping space and transportation charges, and improved construction methods point the way to an expanded usefulness for many types of structures, especially housing, in the post-war period.

Lumber Treatment: Advances in the treatment of lumber to resist decay and insect attack and to render it more fire resistant will expand the usefulness of this material beyond the war emergency.

Wood Doors: Prefabricated stressed-covered plywood, pressure glued to specially designed wood frames represents a new development in the manufacture of vertical and sliding wood doors, for the smallest industrial opening to the largest hangar entrance. Where required to meet fire protection regulations doors may be metal covered.

Wall Boards: Plastic finished wall boards have been developed which include a wide variety of plain colors, tile and marble patterns, and natural wood veneers.

Flashing: A flexible flashing system requires no metal and may be installed with new built-up

roofing or applied to repairs of existing built-up roofs.

Ventilation: Problems in industrial plants, during periods of blackout, have been solved by mechanical supply and exhaust roof ventilators embodying special blackout features.

Distribution ducts of sheetboard conserve metal and provide a more efficient insulating material.

Metal Alloys: One of the outstanding advances which will provide better substitutes for many uses and increase the serviceability of many appliances and items of equipment is the development of new metal alloys, particularly in the field of non-ferrous materials.

Concrete Forms: The erection of forms for concrete work has been simplified by the development of specially engineered devices which, in large part, are available for repeated use.

Concrete Manual

The fourth edition of the well-illustrated, 476-page, pocket-size Concrete Manual has been published by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, an organization particularly familiar with this material and having exceptional research and testing facilities.

Copies obtainable at \$1.00 each from offices of the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, Colorado, and Washington, D. C. (Checks to be made payable to Treasurer of the U. S.)

ASTM Standards on Cement

The sixth edition of this compilation, issued annually by the American Society for Testing Materials, gives in compact form all of the latest standard and tentative specifications, methods of chemical analysis, and methods of physical tests pertaining to cement. Also included is information on analytical balances and weights, and the Emergency Alternate Specifications for Portland Cement (EA-C 150) issued in the interest of expediting procurement. Included for the first time are the Tentative Specifications for Treated Portland Cement for Concrete Pavements (C 175-42 T). A Manual of Cement

Testing and a List of Selected References for Portland Cement are also given.

This 125-page publication in heavy paper binding can be obtained from the A.S.T.M. Headquarters, 260 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa., at \$1.35 per copy.

Approved ASA Standard

The American Standards Association has approved, as an American Standard, "Protective Lighting for Industrial Properties—A-85-1942."

National Bureau of Standards Research on Building Materials and Structures

To the list of reports mentioned in previous issues of THE OCTAGON on A.S.A. Building Code Correlating may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington D. C. at the price indicated (stamps not accepted):

BMS93—Accumulation of Moisture in Walls of Frame Construction During Winter Exposure. 10¢

Recent Appointments

President Shreve announces the following appointments:

Mellen C. Greeley, as one of the representatives of The Institute on A.S.A. Building Code Correlating Committee, for the 1943-1944 term, with Theodore Irving Coe as his alternate, for the same period.

Deserving Special Mention

Recently appointed directors on the Board of the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council of Detroit, Michigan: Clair W. Ditchy and Otis Winn.

Kenneth C. Welch was recently appointed a member of the City Planning Department of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Chairman of the Technical Committee of The Producers' Council's Post-war Planning Committee, George J. Haas.

Secretary of the Technical Committee of The Council's Post-war Planning Committee, Theodore Irving Coe.

As of Interest

Excerpt from Report of Regional Director
Henry H. Gutterson:

Despite the dislocations of war-time adjustments that have been so prevalent in our Sierra-Nevada District, your Director has been inspired by the calm and cheerful determination generally encountered among our members. Where offices have been closed for lack of work, men have either arranged to carry on at home or in smaller or shared offices. Where that was impossible, they have courageously enlisted or sought jobs with war production groups to capitalize on abilities in design, drafting, engineering, coordinating, or supervising.

The former group are by now working as draftsmen and are busier than ever before. The latter men are especially happy and useful. They attend their chapter meetings to make an interesting variety of contributions reflecting their new work and contacts. They are our rank and file.

There is another, smaller group that has tried to count on "business as usual." Their ranks are filled with apprehension and criticism. These men have just about completed their last commissions and are either fatigued by fighting war-time adjustments as required by Federal programs or priority requirements or they are damning somebody else as responsible for their troubles and the lack of continuity in the prospects ahead. A favorite target for this group is the A.I.A. Board! They demand of their Regional Director that Government officials be made to adequately recognize Architects. They are certain that the engineers have been much more cleverly and intelligently guided and pushed into great work programs—when, as a matter of fact, much of their trouble is a lack of war-time spirit and the non-acceptance of war-time requirements.

Another, the smallest group, has fitted so well into the war program as to contribute amazingly to the tremendous total effort that so astonishes the traveling observer. This group is still in that other world of pressing opportunities so that even the chapter and state association meetings are crowded out of mind. As architects their capacity for adjustment has been adequate to our unprecedented emergency. They have gone far in helping to knit our profession into the 1943 pattern and the future.

Chapters today are greatly colored by the foregoing facts. Chapter officers who are of the rank and file influence their meetings to calm and cheerful acceptance of new and useful roles. Those who are out of step make of their meetings forums for protest, or, at best, research groups for long-range planning against the time when things will be adjusted for them. When that time comes those architects who have led in the great war-time construction experiences, will return to the fold in person and be better leaders for the future of the profession.

The Turning Point!

From "The Bulletin"—Southern California Chapter.

The resurgence of the Southern California Chapter as the center of interest and activity among the architects of Southern California during the year 1942 has been the outstanding development of the year. The splendid response to, and active participation of the members in, the program initiated by your Executive Committee has been most gratifying.

In spite of the chaotic condition of the profession today, the membership of the chapter in the short span of one year has gained 29 new members. The total of all classes has reached the highest point in fifty years of our chapter history. The action of The Institute in opening its membership to every reputable practicing architect in the country, implemented by the hard work of our Membership Committee, has in a great measure been responsible for the splendid increase.

While others have bemoaned the lack of opportunity for the architect in the war effort, we have pressed the case of the architect before both the civilian and military authorities, and with private industry. Today a majority of our members are engaged in vital war work on home fronts and on foreign soil, as civilians and in the armed services.

While we must continue to convert our efforts into war activity, we must not lose sight of the fact that the turning point looking toward victory and a post-war world is not far away. This coming year will focus our attention on the new order. We must not expect to develop a formula for a long-range plan overnight. We can, however, make a start during the coming year. Those of us who are able

to spare time outside of our war efforts can use it to the best advantage by participating in a serious study of post-war problems.

There is a great future ahead for the architect. There will be unlimited opportunity to put his training and experience to work in building the world of tomorrow.

SAMUEL E. LUNDEN, *President*

The Iowa Chapter Program:

The Iowa Chapter held its 40th annual meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. New officers elected were: Burdette Higgins, President; Ralph Arnold, Vice-President; Karl K. Keffer and David B. Toenjes, members of Executive Committee. The following statements are indicative of the ideas and opinions expressed at the meeting: (1) The Architect should assume more civic responsibilities and should by all means encourage and support the principle of State and Local Planning; (2) The Profession should object to and fight in every way possible that which is known as "Red Tape" before it strangles the construction industry; (3) The Institute should devise ways and means for providing its members with up-to-the-minute news affecting the profession; (4) Several architects stated that they planned to become registered professional engineers; (5) The chapter and its members should remain active during the war in order to be in position of influence when building operations are again started; (6) When the chapter turns from business to pleasure the Past President Amos B. Emery always has the situation well in hand!

LEONARD WOLF, *Secretary*

Rhode Island Chapter Headquarters:

The Rhode Island Chapter has rented a room in an historic building known as Shakespeare's Head located at 21 Meeting Street, Providence, which it will equip as a library.

The building, three stories high with a large chimney rising from the center of the hipped roof, was erected c. 1769 by John Carter, a former apprentice in the printing office of Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia. Carter came to Providence in 1767 to take over the publication of the "Providence Gazette," established by William Goddard in 1762, and married Amey Crawford in 1769. In 1772 he was appointed postmaster.

After erecting the building on Meeting Street (then known as Gaol lane) Carter and his bride resided in the upper stories. The first floor was used for the printing office, the post office, and a book shop. A head of Shakespeare on a post in front of the building symbolized the literary treasures to be found within.

After Carter's death in 1814 the building continued as a residence, but the quality of its occupants waned as the march of progress during the next century effected a change in the character of the neighborhood. By 1937 its condition had descended to such a state of disrepair that it was condemned by the inspector of buildings. At that point a group of citizens organized and incorporated Shakespeare's Head Association, purchased the property and effected its restoration. The large yard in the rear was taken over by the Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs who, after removing generations of ashes and other debris, disclosed terrace walls and other fragments of Mistress Carter's garden, which subsequently was restored.

The first story of the building is occupied by the Providence Council of Girl Scouts. The architects' library is on the second floor front, flanked on the other side of the winding stairway hall by the Shakespeare's Head Association room, restored by the Society of Colonial Dames. The Association proposes to establish a museum of printing in the large second story room in the rear.

JOHN HUTCHINS CADY, F.A.I.A.

Industrial Camouflage Manual:

By Konrad F. Wittmann, A.I.A. Reinhold Publishing Corporation, New York—\$4.00.

From the Preface:—"This Industrial Camouflage Manual represents many of the experiments and experiences that have developed in the classrooms and camouflage laboratory at Pratt Institute since the inception of the program in September, 1940. The material was originally intended for student use but soon embraced problems in the entire field of Industrial Camouflage. * * *

"This manual is not a book in the definitive sense of the word but rather a report of the activities to date of interested personnel at Pratt Institute to contribute to the all too meager study of this fast developing area of war effort."

et
le
as
a
nt
to

n-
ts
xt
he
ed
oy
of
's
nd
ar
of
of
nd
ch

he
ts'
he
he
he
ro-
ge

A.

b-

ou-
nts
ss-
ate
er,
for
he

ive
ies
to
ast